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Robert Stewart to George Washington, June 23, 1756, with Company Payroll Receipts, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM CAPTAIN ROBERT STEWART.

MAIDSTONE JUNE 23rd 1756

SIR

I just recd. yours of yesterday by Rollins and upon Examination it appears that what he complain'd of to you are literally as follows Vizt

Amongst the other precautions I had taken to prevent Drunkeness and Irregularity which by Rollins' means then became prevalent amongst the Soldiers here, I order'd the Officer of the Guard to visit the Tippling House every Night sometime after Tatoo Beating, and to confine any of the Soldiers that might then be found Drinking there—Lieut. Campbell happened Officer of the Guard the night Rollins complains of, and went into his House at a Door that was quite open but that he did not abuse Rollins nor even speak to him he and those who went the Rounds with him are willing to swear thus —

One Day Rollins who was much incens'd at a stop's being put to his Selling Liquor to the Soldiers was cursing all the Officers in the grossest terms and said many audacious provoking things upon which Sergeant Hughes told him that if it were not for the Law he would whip him, Rollins replied that he would take no advantage of the Law desir'd one of the Inhabitants to be his second & stript, then he and Hughes went at it and Hughes

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gave him a most sincere Drubbing—Rollins never complain'd to me nor did he apply to you till after he found that Govr. Sharpe would not hear his Scandalous falsehoods against the Virga. Officers—he has since had the assurance to tell my Servant that unless I gave him Liberty to sell Liquor to the Soldiers that you would send me from here—I hop'd you would have mention'd something of Caton's affair and his as by it the Country has been defrauded and Laws trappl'd upon—The Deserters will be tried agreeable to your orders But any punishmt. a Regimental Court Martial can order will I'm afraid have little weight with some of them. Governor Sharpe is Building his Fort 14 Miles from the mouth of the Creek at Johnson's Plantation on Potomack River—Inclos'd is a Return of the Detachmt. and the provisions on hand, and doubts not but you will order us a supply of Flower before what is on hand is exhausted—Last night I was oblig'd to put a Soldier [one of Rollin's Customers] in Irons for Mutiny

I was yesterday favour'd with a Letter from Maj. Halkett Dated at Albany May 26th. He informs me that there was then a Total Stagnation in the affairs of the Regulars till the arrival of orders from home—That General Windslow was forwarding everything from thence with the greatest Expedition, that he expected to be able to Encamp at Fort Will Henry on the Lakes in 3 Weeks from the time and wou'd proceed towards Crown Point without waiting for further orders—Colo. Gage desires I would send back Winterbottom one of my Corporals who I had from his Regmt. to Train the Troop Horses what am I to do in this Affair? Your answer by the return of the bearer will oblige him who is with respect

Sir Your Most Obthble Servt ROBERT STEWART Majr. Halkett desires me to present his complimts. to you.